

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale, for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising a three-dimensional member shaped as a human seated in a wheelchair, the member engagable with the design plans and scaled to allow accurate representation of the movement of the three-dimensional member within the spaces of known scale of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of movement of the three-dimensional member~~indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 1, further comprising a wand extending from the member in operation of the design tool.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for use in association with a design plans having hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale, for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising:

a first three-dimensional component having a surface engagable with the design plans, the first component scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population, and

a second component extending from the first component at any angle relative to the surface of the first component other than perpendicular.

5. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the first component is shaped as a human seated in a wheelchair.

6. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale, for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising:

a base having a surface engagable with the design plans, the base scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population;

~~an~~ a three-dimensional icon figure attached to the base, the icon figure sized to the scale of the design plans to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population along the hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other within the spaces of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of movement along the noted paths in light of the size and turning radius of the represented person;

a member extending from the icon figure at any angle relative to the surface of the base other than perpendicular.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 6, wherein the member has a first and a second end, the icon figure includes an opening corresponding in size to the first end of the member, and the first end of the member is maintained within the opening of the icon figure.

9. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 8, wherein the first end of the member is maintained within the opening of the icon figure by frictional contact of the first end of the member to the interior of the opening.

10. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 8, wherein the icon figure includes a metal plate located in the opening, the first end of the member includes a magnet, and the member is maintained within the opening of the icon figure by the metal plate-magnet combination.

11. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 8, wherein the opening of the icon figure includes first ridges along the interior of the opening, the first end of the member includes second ridges corresponding to the first ridges along the interior of the opening, and the member is maintained within the opening of the icon figure by the snap-lock combination between the first and second ridges.

12. (Original) The design tool of claim 6, wherein the base has a diameter equal to or greater than the diameter of the icon figure.

13. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 6, wherein the icon figure is shaped as a human seated in a wheelchair.

14. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale, for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising:

a base having a surface engagable with the design plans, the base scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population; and

~~an a three-dimensional~~ icon attached to the base, the icon having the dimensions of the support device sized to the scale of the design plans to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population ~~along within the hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale~~ of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of movement along the noted paths in light of the size of the represented support device.

15. (Currently Amended) The design tool of claim 14~~26~~, wherein the wand has an end, the design tool includes an opening corresponding in size to the end of the wand, and the end of the wand is maintained within the opening of the design tool.

16. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 15, wherein the end of the wand is maintained within the opening of the design tool by frictional contact of the end of the wand to the interior of the opening.

17. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 15, wherein the design tool includes a metal plate located in the opening, the end of the wand includes a magnet, and the wand is maintained within the opening of the design tool by the metal plate-magnet combination.

18. (Previously Amended) The design tool of claim 15, wherein the opening of the design tool includes first ridges along the interior of the opening, the end of the wand includes second ridges corresponding to the first ridges along the interior of the opening, and the wand is maintained within the opening of the design tool by the snap-lock combination between the first and second ridges.

19. (Currently Amended) The design tool of claim 14, wherein the icon is a ~~three-dimensional figure~~ shaped as a wheelchair.

20. (Currently Amended) The design tool of claim 14, wherein the icon is a ~~three-dimensional~~ figure shaped as a human seated in a wheelchair.

21. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having ~~hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces~~ of a known scale, for functional and space planning ~~in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures~~, comprising a three-dimensional means engagable with the design plans scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population and sized to the scale of the design plans to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population along the ~~hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces~~ of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of movement along the noted paths in light of the size and turning radius of the represented support device.

22. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having ~~hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces~~ of a known scale, for functional and space planning ~~in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures~~, comprising a first means engagable with the design plans, the first means three-dimensional and scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population, and a second means extending from the icon figure at any angle relative to the surface of the first means other than perpendicular for supporting the first means in operation of the design tool.

23. (Withdrawn) A display package for use in association with a design tool having a scaled icon figure and corresponding base and used for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising a support structure, a hole cut sized to receive the scaled icon figure and

corresponding base so as to prominently display the icon figure outwards from the support structure, and an exterior cover into which the support structure is slidably encased for maintaining the design tool securely within the support structure.

24. (Withdrawn) The display package of claim 23, wherein the design tool further includes a wand extending from and supporting the icon figure and corresponding base and the support structure further comprises a hole cut sized to receive and prominently display the wand.

25. (Previously Added) The system of claim 4, wherein the first component is shaped as a wheelchair having at least two wheels supporting a chair.

26. (Previously Added) The design tool of claim 14, further comprising a wand extending from the design tool.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A design tool for use in association with a design plans having hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of a known scale, for functional and space planning in the fields of architecture, interior design, and construction of residential and commercial structures, comprising:

a first means engagable with the design plans and scaled to indicate a turning radius to imitate the turning radius of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population, the first-means being three-dimensional; and

a second means having the dimensions of the support device and sized to the scale of the design plans to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population along the hallways, doorways, stairways, rooms and other spaces of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of

movement along the noted paths in light of the size of the represented support device.

31. (New) The design tool of claim 6, wherein the spaces of a known scale comprise at least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.

32. (New) The design tool of claim 31, wherein the three-dimensional icon figure attached to the base is sized to the scale of the design plan to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population along at the least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.

33. (New) The design tool of claim 14, wherein the spaces of a known scale comprise at least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.

34. (New) The design tool of claim 33, wherein the three-dimensional icon attached to the base has dimensions of the support device sized to the scale of the design plan to allow accurate representation of the movement of persons with disabilities and the aging population along at the least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.

35. (New) A method for operating a three-dimensional tool in association with a design plan having spaces of a known scale for functional and space planning, comprising:

selecting a tool appropriately sized to the scale of the design plan to allow accurate representation of the movement of a support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population;

positioning the tool within the spaces of a known scale of the design plan;

manipulating the tool within the spaces of a known scale of the design plan to visually illustrate the feasibility of movement within the spaces of a known scale in light of the size of the represented support device; and

determining the size of the open spaces of a known scale of the design plan necessary to allow movement of the support device used by persons with disabilities and the aging population based on evaluating the visual illustration of the feasibility of movement within the spaces of a known scale in light of the size of the represented support device.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the tool is manipulated within the spaces of a known scale of the design plan using a wand.

37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the spaces of a known scale comprising at least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein manipulating the tool within the spaces of a known scale of the design plan comprises moving the tool along at least one of hallways, doorways, stairways and rooms.